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Princeton in the CIA's service

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There is nothing covert about the CIA employment interviews taking place today in Clio Hall. But that should not deceive any of us about the nature of the CIA's activities.

As citizens of the United States, we need to be aware of the actions the CIA carries out in our name. As Princeton students and faculty, we must understand the history of covert CIA intrusions into our campus, activity which is still permitted by the university today.

From Iran (1953), Guatemala (1954) and the Congo (1960), to Chile (1973) and Angola (1975), the CIA has made it its business to overthrow governments and to install (or attempt to install) dictatorial regimes sympathetic to United States business and military interests.

These interventions are not merely the dark underside of American foreign policy. Rather, they reflect the mainstream of establishment through from World War II to the present, a consensus which has been nourished in respectable institutions such as this university. Not coincidentally, there is also a long and multi-faceted tradition of Princeton in the CIA's service.

Breeding ground

From Allen W. Dulles '14 (later a Princeton trustee), who was the CIA's first director, to William E. Colby '40, who played a key role in the CIA's secret war in Laos, in the 1973 "destabilization" of democratic government in Chile, and in the Phoenix program of torture and murder in Vietnam, and who was CIA director from 1973 to 1975, Princeton has been a particularly fertile breeding ground for the agency, right up to the present Deputy Director, Frank J. Carlucci '52.

CIA recruitment at Princeton has benefited from the active participation of university officials. Former Career Services director Newell Brown admitted in 1976 to *The Daily Princetonian*, "We are aware of the kinds of people the CIA looks for and when we run into the type we tell them to send a resume."

But not all CIA recruiting at Princeton has been conducted through Career Services. An article in the *Trenton Times* of February 12, 1975, reported the story of a Princeton senior summoned in the late 1960's to meet with the dean of students, at that time the university's chief disciplinarian. However, Dean William D'O. Lippincott '41 had other things than discipline on his mind:

"I understand you've been interviewing with the CIA," the dean said. The senior found the question perplexing. It was true that he had applied for a job at the intelligence agency, but officials there had insisted on complete confidentiality. How had the dean of students found out?

"The answer was soon forthcoming. 'You see,' the student recalls Lippincott saying, 'I'm with the agency. And I thought we might have a talk — confidential, of course — about its work.'"

A spy in our midst

The CIA announced last year that it will continue the secret recruiting of foreign students at American universities. Such students have been used to report on the political activities of their compatriots. These reports are often communicated to secret police agencies abroad with potentially dangerous consequences for the students and their families.

Foreign students' fears about CIA spying are not merely conjectural. In May 1967, the Woodrow Wilson School was forced to admit that several students had been working covertly for the CIA while participating in the school's summer program abroad. Embarrassed WWS officials responded by issuing a ban on "any covert intelligence activity while the student is enrolled in school" (*The Washington Post*, May 4, 1967). The policy apparently applies, however, only to WWS graduate students, not to its undergraduates or professors.

According to Dean of the College Joan Girgus (*The Daily Princetonian*, October 24, 1978), Princeton University has no specific prohibition against the covert recruitment of foreign students. In contrast, Harvard President Derek C. Bok has taken a firm public stand against covert CIA activity on his campus, charging it threatens "the integrity and independence of the academic community."

Princeton professors have been involved with the CIA in many different capacities. Former history professor Joseph Strayer, for example, took a year's leave of absence from Princeton to work at CIA

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